

## College 'idolizing' students again



Cecily Deavours awaits her cue to begin singing

Shelton State Idol is in full swing, with 9 of the top 12 contestants remaining.

Ernest Cannon, Alysia Nailor and Seth Collins said good-bye to Shelton's atri-

See Idol  
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## Chancellor checks in



Representing the student body, Ambassadors (L-R) Allie Schmittz, Hannah Jones and Mallory Banks greet Chancellor Bradley Byrne on Oct. 1 and thank him for his leadership while Shelton President Mark Heinrich looks on.

## Chancellor and President say college and system in good shape

By Meredith Sayers

For the fourth consecutive year Alabama's two-year post secondary schools, Shelton State included, have not increased tuition.



President Heinrich, Chancellor Byrne, and Dr. Cordell Wynn chat during the Chancellor's visit

## McCain wins students' vote in huge potential turnout



**86%** percent of students polled were registered to vote

percent of registered students who are going to vote **95%**

**51%** percent of students polled said they are voting for McCain

percent of students polled voting for Obama **44%**

**5%** undecided | 100 Shelton Students Surveyed

By Chris Shirley

We've all heard that the children are our future, but what will happen when children cannot afford to go to school? What happens to our future then? That's exactly what both presidential candidates are fighting against.

Both candidates are making great strides to make receiving an education as

Election  
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Postsecondary Chancellor Bradley Byrne said Oct. 1, during his initial visit to Shelton State during President Mark Heinrich's tenure that, "As tempting as it would be to increase tuition this year, we are not going to do it. We're here to educate as many students as

See President  
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## Inside The Courier

• The Courier continues its "Infrastructure" series by centering in on the Learning Center.....pg. 6

• Your refrigerator awaits the Men's and Women's basketball schedule--now cut that out!..... p. 3

• Soccer's Nellie Christian scores her 100th win as head coach.....pg. 8





## Election cont'd

easy and affordable as possible.

"We need to reclaim the American dream," said Sen. Barack Obama in a speech given last November. He encouraged supporters to stand for a common purpose and that purpose is education. According to his website, [www.barackobama.com](http://www.barackobama.com),

Obama and Vice Presidential candidate Joe Biden promise to make college affordable for all Americans. He introduced a plan that would include a tax credit covering the first \$4,000 of tuition.

The plan would also make community college free for most students. However, recipients of the tax credit would have to perform 100 hours of community service.

John McCain also has major plans for the future of higher education. Sen. McCain's website, [www.johnmccain.com](http://www.johnmccain.com), states that he plans to simplify existing tax benefits for lower income families.

McCain has also

expressed interest in fixing the student lending programs. He also plans to eliminate earmarks and increase funding for university research. Both presidential candidates favor a simpler financial aid process.

Sen. Obama plans to eliminate the financial aid application. His new plan would allow individuals to check a box on their tax form to receive financial aid. This would eliminate the need for a separate application.

In contrast, Sen. McCain plans to consolidate the many financial aid programs into one making the benefits easier to understand. He plans to simplify the application.

"We can't afford not to vote in this election," says Jeana Mabe, a freshman at Shelton State Community College. "It directly effects our future," she continues. Her friend Danielle Davis agrees. "We're part of a new generation and if we want changes to be made, we have to vote," says Davis.

With both candidates having big plans for the future of education, students have a decision to make that shouldn't be taken lightly.

## SSCC Athletic Department Golf Tournament

**Friday Oct. 17, 2008**

Woodland Forest Golf Course --Four Man Scramble  
\$100 per player/ \$100 hole sponsors

**For more information contact Barry  
Mohun at 205.391.2918**

The *Shelton State  
Courier* is brought  
to its readers by the  
academic and  
extracurricular  
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Shelton State  
Community

Get your  
2009 Miss Shelton State packets now!  
In the  
Student Organization Office  
located on the 2nd floor  
(across from the learning center)



Information Sessions for interested contestants  
Monday, Oct. 6th & Tuesday, Oct. 7th @ 11:30 a.m.  
in the Student Organization Center  
for more information call 391.2262 or 391.2415



MISS AMERICA

## Shelton State Courier

**Editor**  
Meredith Sayers

**Staff Writers**  
Members of  
MCM-102 Class

**Publisher**  
Dr. Jim Kenny

The *Shelton State  
Courier* is a campus  
newspaper, written  
and produced with the help  
of students.

Among its functions, it is  
intended as a vehicle for  
student expression, and all  
students are urged to partic-  
ipate with submissions of  
written and artistic material.

The college seeks to ful-  
fill the statement for aca-  
demic freedom in working  
with the students in the pro-

duction of this paper.

All publications are sub-  
ject to review by the  
Publications Action Group,  
which has been delegated  
the responsibility to review  
all college publications for  
content and accuracy.

The *Courier* is an equal  
opportunity employer and  
student organization. All  
students are encouraged to  
participate.



# Buccaneer Basketball

## 2008-2009 Home Basketball Schedule

DATE DAY OPPONENT SITE TIME	November 20 Thursday LBW (Homecoming) Umphrey Center 5:30 p.m (W) 7:30 p.m (M)	January 15 Thursday Gadsden State Umphrey Center 5:30 p.m (W) 7:30 p.m (M)	February 2 Monday Bevill-Sumiton Umphrey Center 7:30 p.m (M)	February 23 Monday Marion Military Inst. Umphrey Center 7:30 p.m (M)
November 6 Thursday Itawamba Umphrey Center 5:30 p.m (W) 7:30 p.m (M)	December 8 Monday Alabama Southern Talladega JV Umphrey Center 5:30 p.m (W) 7:30 p.m (M)	January 22 Thursday Wallace-Hanceville Umphrey Center 5:30 p.m (W) 7:30 p.m (M)	February 9 Monday Bevill-Fayette Umphrey Center 5:30 p.m (W) 7:30 p.m (M)	
November 13 Thursday Meridian CC Umphrey Center 5:30 p.m (W) 7:30 p.m (M)	January 8, 2009 Thursday NW Shoals Umphrey Center 5:30 p.m (W) 7:30 p.m (M)	January 29 Thursday Snead State Umphrey Center 5:30 p.m (W) 7:30 p.m (M)	February 16 Monday Lawson State Umphrey Center 5:30 p.m (W) 7:30 p.m (M)	

## Alumni Membership Drive

It is time for the Alumni Membership Drive for the 2008-2009 year. Active membership runs from October 2008 through September 2009. Dues are only \$20 per year, and for your dollars you will receive a "thank you" gift and the following benefits as an Active Member of the Alumni Association:

- Shelton State Bookstore – 10% discount on all merchandise (except textbooks)
- Theatre Tuscaloosa - \$2 off one adult ticket per show
- Shelton State Athletics – Free admission to all sporting events
- 10% Discount on any Cosmetology service
- Brooks-Cork and Fredd Campus Libraries – Access for you and members of your family

The membership dues are primarily used to fund the Alumni Louise Pruitt Memorial Scholarship. A long term goal of the Alumni Association is to endow at least one scholarship for a deserving adult student. For the past few years, we have given two \$500 scholarships to two adult students.

To join or renew your membership, return the application along with your check for \$20 made out to the Shelton State Alumni Association.

If you have any questions, you may contact Ronda Shirley at 205.391.2252 or by email at [rshirley@sheltonstate.edu](mailto:rshirley@sheltonstate.edu).

Thank you for your continued support of Shelton State Community College.

## Homecoming is November 20 Shelton Bucs vs. LBW



Homecoming Queen Applications will be available beginning Oct. 15.

**Application deadline is Nov. 7.**

Queen interviews will be Nov. 13 from 2-5 p.m.

Student voting Nov. 17-19.



## President cont'd

possible and we think keeping the tuition low is the best way to do it."

The time is not right for a tuition increase, both Byrne and Heinrich said, because most students at community and technical colleges are commuters who are struggling with gas prices approaching \$4 per gallon and other rising expenses, said Byrne.

But how will Shelton weather the economic downturn we are now facing? "There are many factors to consider," said President Mark Heinrich in an exclusive interview with the *Courier*.

When other institutions are raising tuition substantially, even to the double digits, Shelton's tuition has stayed level. "I would find that attractive if I were a student," he said.

However, next year's tuition is still up in the air. Tuition is a system wide decision—it affects all two-year schools in the state. Students will be unable to escape higher tuition if officials reach the decision to increase it.

Byrne also allowed schools to switch classes, where appropriate, to four days a week. Shelton has implemented this four day week—Monday through Thursday. Students are now able to take a full load easily

in four days. "Many students work, and having an extra day helps them. We implemented this to meet student needs," Heinrich said.

Students are also encouraged to participate in e-learning, which is online education. Shelton State has invested much time, energy and resources into this program.

Scholarship recipients will not suffer in light of the recent economic problems and reduced funding. Scholarships will still be awarded, and new scholarships have been added to aid students further. "Even with all of the bad things happening around us, positive things are being done in the school," Heinrich said.

Historically, attendance has gone up when the economy goes down, said Heinrich, possibly because people want to learn new skills or go in a different direction. For this reason, he is not worried about enrollment and attendance rates dropping. Enrollment is up about 5 percent this semester from last year, he said. "People know if they develop skills it leads to a higher paying job," said the President.

As to what will happen if the economic downturn continues long term: "It's anybody's guess," he said.

## Idol cont'd from Page 1

Lee Johnson, Bobby Sparks, Amanda Bradley and Tiana Stewart still in the running.

Three more were to be

eliminated on Oct. 16 and three more on Oct. 23. The finalists will sing for a prize package and the glory of being the "Shelton State Idol" on Oct. 30.

Taking up the tall order—as evidenced by the seemingly very professional singing in the first round—of judging is Andrea Parker, Glen Johnson, Kelda Cabbil and Eric Prewitt.

Prewitt also served as MC and seemed to play the Ryan Seacrest role with

System Improvement Team 5 has revived the contest from a few years back that was quite popular with the whole Shelton family—students, staff and faculty.



um stage set up on Thursdays during the month of October for the Shelton State Idol Contest.

This leaves Rachel Edwards, Cecily Deavours, Monyae Bizzell, Ashley Hallman, Christie White,



Scenes from the 2008 Shelton State Idol contest.



**Due Nov. 17**  
by 5 p.m.



**Maxwell's Crossing**  
is looking for *your* handiwork!

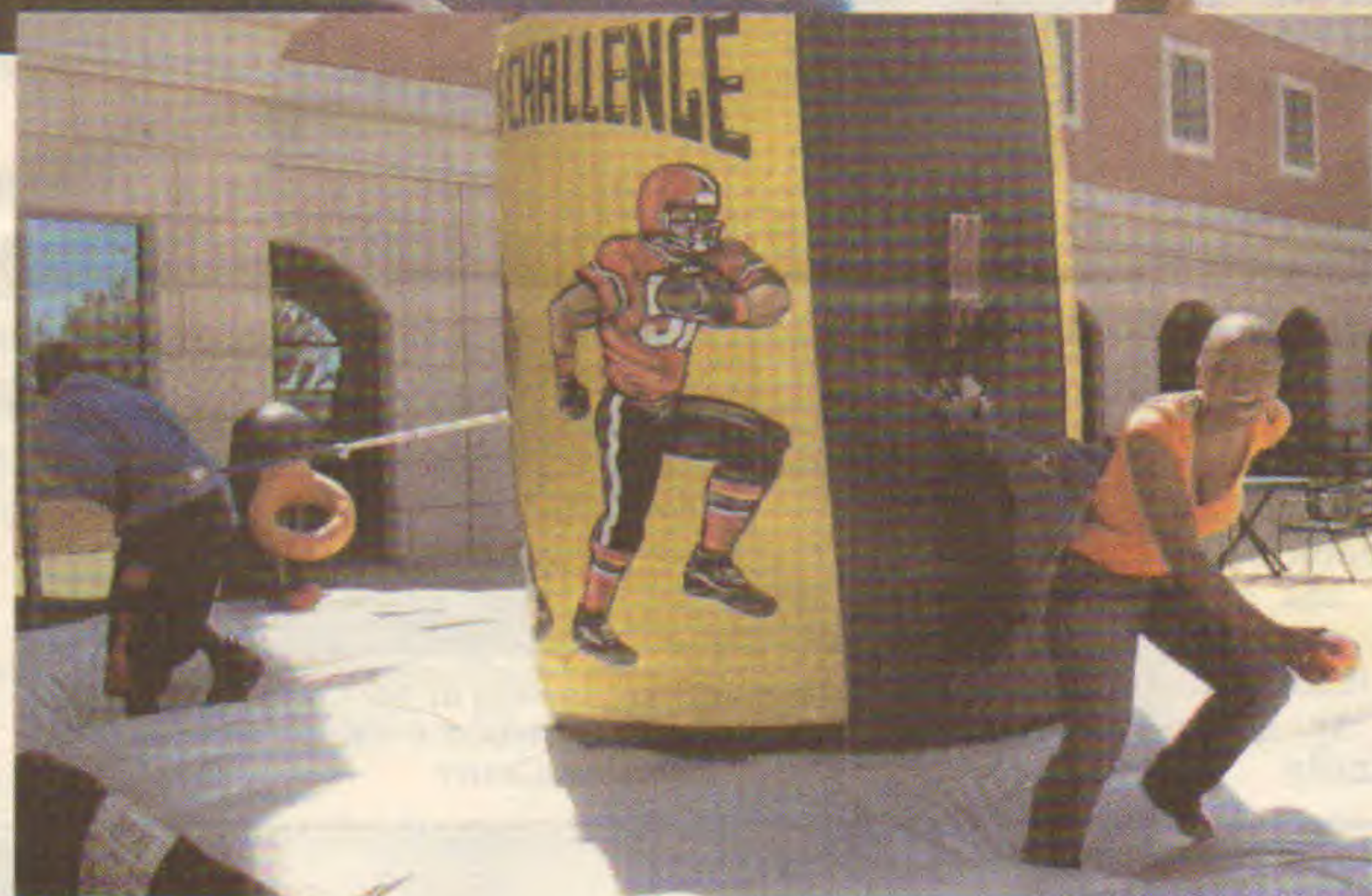
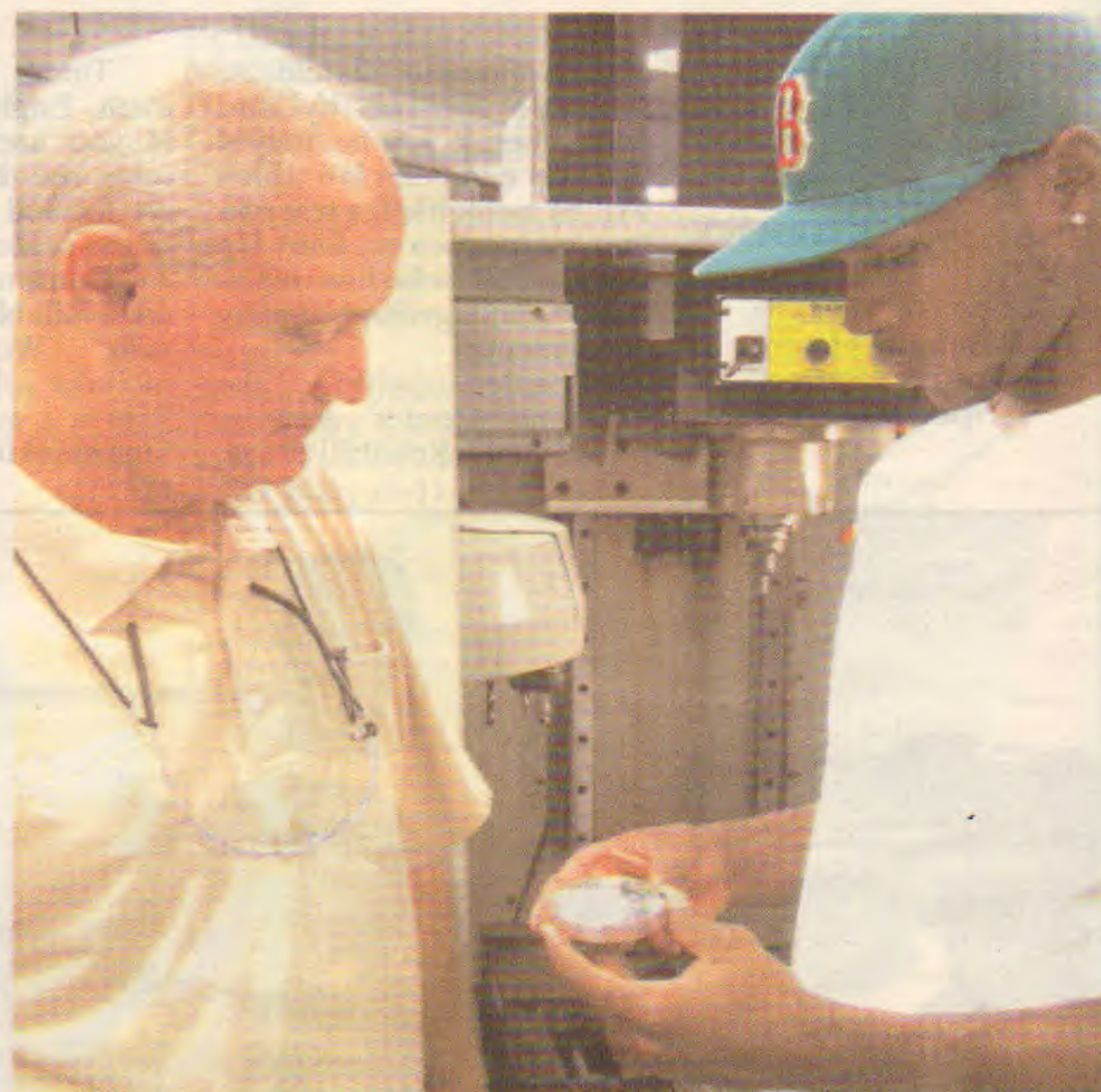
Submit your poetry, prose—including fiction and creative essays—and visual artwork.

Awards will be given to the best poem, best prose work, and best visual artwork.

Submit online at  
[jkenny@sheltonstate.edu](mailto:jkenny@sheltonstate.edu)  
or bring to the Courier  
office, room 2319.



# Shel-Shots



Clockwise from top left: Students were given the materials to make their own tie-dyed T-shirts during the Fall Fling outside the atrium on the Martin Campus; Computerized Numerical Control Instructor Ronnie Guy admires the machining of Daniel Hambricht's Shelton State paperweight that he produced as tokens for visiting SACS officials; one of the good things coming out of Shelton's evacuation experience: the athletic department managed to get Umphrey Center floor resurfaced; retired banker and community activist Tommy Hester once again ably emceed the annual BBQ Bash; schoolboard member Sandra Ray was among the well-wishers greeting Chancellor Byrne during his visit; a hilarious--and dangerous--(and strange) game of tug-of-war was among the Fall Fling offerings.



# Infrastructure

(A series about how the college is put together)

AN OVERVIEW OF THE LEARNING CENTER, DISABILITY SERVICES OFFICE AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OFFICE

By Michele Minor,  
Learning Center  
Specialist

new equipment should be available for use by mid November. It will be housed in a new computer lab which will be available for reservation by instructors, Start Up Days, class schedule registration, and general use by the students.

Located within the Learning Center area is Vocational Rehabilitation,

Tutors are available in math, English, and biology. If you are interested in a tutor, see the current schedule located at the front desk of the center.

Computer workshops are available throughout the year. Workshop topics include BucsMail and Smarthinking. Smarthinking is a 24 hours/7

days per week computer-based tutoring program. It can be accessed from any computer with web accessibility once you have registered in the Learning Center. Once you register at the front desk, you can do such things as one-on-one help, resume writing assistance, tutorials on many valuable topics, and submit writings for feedback.

As user friendly as

the staff tries to make the Center, no food, drink, or cell phone usage is allowed in the center.

The Learning Center is for Shelton State Students only. Students may be required to show ID at any

time.

Printing is available for the first 10 pages. Although it is currently free, in the near future, a charge may apply. Also, a log in process may soon be implemented before students are able to



The Learning Center's math tutor Iulian Vuc from Romania confers with English tutors Clare King and Fahmida Bratina.

What we know as the Learning Center today originally started out in the early 1990s as a two classroom tutoring center called the Success Center. It was started with a grant and began at the old Shelton State campus on Skyland Boulevard.

The Success Center had no computers to begin with. It was used as a tutoring center, offering help in math, English, and reading.

The Learning Center was newly remodeled in the summer of 2005. It was been updated in order to offer more programs for Shelton's students.

Currently, the Learning Center has 30 computers available for student use, but is in the process of adding 10 more to the main area. The

International Student Services, Service Learning, and the Office of Disability Services.

The Learning Center also has two classrooms: a Nursing and Respiratory Care Lab and a Language classroom/lab.

The Learning Center has programs that are available to all students.

The computers have been updated with the Windows 2007 Microsoft Office program. The Learning Center also has the needed programs for other types of assignments in Shelton classes.

The Learning Center is open from 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m., Monday- Thursday and 7:30 until 5 p.m. on Friday.



Top: Shirley Cobb is the receptionist at the Learning Center.  
Bottom: Virginia Hocutt serves as a monitor for the Learning Center



Michele Minor with students Lacie Lindy and Hanna Miller in the new lab that will be making its grand debut into the Learning Center in mid November.



# Learning Center

programs. Students will have to have their Shelton ID in order to use the facility.

The Learning Center has

areas of the Learning Center is in progress at all times.

The Learning Center is a learning environment, hence the name, and noise

pleasant American experience.

The International Student Office serves primarily as the official liaison

between Shelton State Community College and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

The International Student Office also assists students with application for admission, registration, medical insurance, etc.

Enrolled students are assisted and tutored to take advantage of USCIS benefits while maintaining their legal status from the point of college admission to the point of transfer to another institution or return to their home country.

The International Student Office proudly serves approximately 25 students from countries in Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

## OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES

The Office of Disability Services is located within the Learning Center. If a student has documented needs for assistance, Office of Disability Services staff members Michele Minor, LaTonya Robinson, or Marie Lee are available to meet those needs.



*Michele Minor is the specialist in charge of the Learning Center. The Learning Center is open five days a week beginning at 7:30 a.m.*

several friendly staff and work study students to assist in the center.

The Learning Center is run by Student Services.

Learning Center Specialist Michele Minor is over the entire area. Shirley Cobb is the first friendly face you'll see at the desk.

She is available for Scavenger Hunts and tours of the Learning Center among other jobs. Virginia Hocutt will greet you with a smile as she walks around monitoring computer usage.

Computers for classroom and instructional use need to be reserved during busy times. Students not working on instructional assignment may be asked to leave.

Video Surveillance of all

should be kept to a low whisper so students can work without distraction.

Notice the new motivational posters on the walls as well as art work representing the Adopt-A-School Partners: Englewood Elementary, Hillcrest Middle School, and Tuscaloosa County High.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OFFICE

Located in the Learning Center, the International Student Office is dedicated to help Shelton State Community College international students succeed while enrolled here.

Every effort is made to ensure the students return home with memories of a



*The Office of Disability Services and the International Student Office is housed in one corner of the Learning Center.*



# PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS NOVEMBER 7

**SPRING 2009 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS  
OCTOBER 31, 2009**

**VISIT THE FINANCIAL AID &  
SCHOLARSHIP SECTION OF THE  
SHELTON STATE WEBSITE TO PRINT A  
COPY OF THE APPLICATION.**

**MAIL APPLICATIONS TO:**  
Performing Arts Selection Committee  
Shelton State Community College  
Box # 217  
9500 Old Greensboro Road  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35405  
**OR HAND DELIVER TO:**  
The Dean of Instruction's Office (Suite 3605)

**sheltonstate.edu**

**DREAMS  
FULFILLED  
HERE.**



**SHELTON STATE**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

sheltonstate.edu

## Women's soccer qualifies for District Tourney

The Shelton State Women's Soccer team's season record is now 8-5-2 with the two wins in Spartanburg, S.C. the weekend of Oct. 10.

The Bucs defeated Spartanburg Methodist College 4-0 on Friday Oct. 10 and Cape Fear Community College (N.C.) 1-0 on Saturday Oct. 11, earning Coach Nellie Christian her 100th win as head coach at Shelton State.

"I was really excited to get the win," said Christian in an article in the *Tuscaloosa News*, "but I'm even more proud of the way the team has played this season and what they've done to get to this point."

The win on Oct. 11 qualified the athletes for the district tournament to be held in Georgia on Nov. 8.

Shelton will host Meridian Community College (Miss.) Oct. 16 and Tyler Junior College (Texas) before heading to the district tournament.



Coach Nellie  
Christian

**Quality Enhancement Plan**  
Improving Student Success  
In Online Classes



Melissa Hudson, with QEP coordinator Darrell Wright, won the iPod Shuffle in the QEP drawing at Get on Board Days Sept. 22 -23.



**Improving Student Success  
in Online Classes**

Quality Enhancement Plan